



# MFC News

*Caring for the Trees and Forests of Mississippi Since 1926*

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July 2014



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*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. USA*

50 Stars 13 Stripes

GIVE ME *Liberty*, Thirteen colonies one union of states

OR GIVE ME DEATH

STARS &  
STRIPES  
FOREVER

One if by land  
two if by sea

Oh, say does that *star-spangled banner* yet wave **EST. 1776**  
O'er the land of the free and the *home of the brave?*

★ ★ ★ GOD BLESS AMERICA ★ ★ ★

*My country tis of thee,  
sweet land of liberty*

I only regret that I have  
but *one life to give*  
for my country

**LIBERTY AND  
JUSTICE FOR ALL**

Democracy is the government of the  
people, by the people, for the people

Where *liberty* dwells,  
there is my country

*Happy  
4th of  
July*

The  
United States of America

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more  
perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility,  
provide for the common defence promote the general  
Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves  
and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this  
Constitution for the United States of America.

*Old Glory*

O beautiful for spacious  
skies, for amber waves of  
grain For purple mountain  
majesties Above the fruited plain!

**NOTHING SHORT OF  
*independence,***

**IT APPEARS TO ME,  
CAN POSSIBLY DO**

**Ask not what *your country* can do for you,  
★ but what you can do for your *country* ★**

*I have not yet  
begun to fight!* Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light 4 JULY 2011  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

**FREEDOM** *Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill,  
we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship  
★ support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty*

**SHE'S A GRAND OLD FLAG, *Independence Forever*  
SHE'S A HIGH FLYING FLAG, ★ *Star Spangled Banner*  
AND FOREVER IN PEACE MAY SHE WAVE. *Red, White & Blue***

Independence Day

The Mississippi Forestry Commission provides equal employment opportunities and services to all individuals regardless of disability, race, age, religion, color, gender, national origin, or political affiliation.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider



- ✚ We (MSDH) confirm about 1,000 cases of classic food poisoning (salmonella infection) every year. Most of these cases occur in the summer months and just after, when warm weather and outdoor dining encourage the growth and spread of bacteria. [More.](#)
- ✚ Mosquito- Borne Disease Update. The Chikungunya Virus. [More.](#)
- ✚ Too Much Daily Sitting Increases the Risk of Certain Cancers. A review of 43 past studies finds that people who spend the most time sitting each day, especially watching TV, have 30 to 50 percent higher risks of colon and uterine cancers. [More.](#)

#### Newsletter Deadlines

All submissions are welcome. E-mail articles and photos to [lharris@mfc.state.ms.us](mailto:lharris@mfc.state.ms.us).

# Smokey Is 70

Seventy years ago this summer, Smokey Bear's first public service ads appeared. Since then, his main message has stayed basically the same: "Only YOU can prevent wildfires."

Yet Smokey is no stodgy septuagenarian. Smokey has "evolved with the times," stresses Ellyn Fisher, a vice president at the Ad Council, which creates Smokey's ads. Early images of Smokey seemed somewhat stern. In one 1944 ad, he looks at us out of the side of his eye as he douses an unattended campfire. His grim look seems to ask, "Did you leave this fire unattended?"

Newer Smokey Bear Hugs ads show Smokey's softer side as he rewards people with bear hugs for practicing fire safety. In one recent ad, a young couple stares awe-struck after Smokey after receiving a hug for properly extinguishing their campfire.

Smokey's not the only thing that has changed with the times. The ways we manage — and think about — the wildfires he urges us to prevent have changed too.

## NEW CHALLENGES

"Natural climate variability always gives us a wild ride," notes Bill Patzert, a climate scientist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. For example, much of the West is currently in a drought linked to the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, a climate pattern that causes climate swings every 20 to 30 years.

Today, though, longer-term worries come from climate change linked to greenhouse gas emissions. "The real concern is that we're going to have more extremes," notes climate researcher David Peterson at the Forest Service's Pacific Wildland Fire Sciences Laboratory in Seattle. "We anticipate by the middle of the century, we'll be burning two to three times as much area in the West as we do now," he says. So expect to see Smokey warning of red alerts at parks and forests more often.

Meanwhile, about 70,000 American communities now abut natural areas. "More people are building in the wildland-urban interface than ever before," says Loren Walker, acting national fire prevention manager for the U.S. Forest Service. Residential

spread increases risks for accidental wildfires. As Patzert puts it, "People equal fire."

New Understanding Smokey urges us to prevent wildfires, and that's because people are still the No. 1 cause of wildfires in the United States. Generally speaking, the less often accidental fires occur, the better.

The smaller percentage of fires that start naturally by lightning are another story. "Fire isn't necessarily a bad thing," says Alex Gavisheff at the Forest Service's Missoula Technology and Development Center in Montana. Instead of preventing all fires, he says, "we try to manage fire." Thus, agencies can now let naturally caused fires burn as long as lives aren't at risk.

Historically, fire has been a regulating agent for forests, explains Brandon Collins at the Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station in California. "It kept tree densities fairly low and it also kept a lot of fuel from accumulating on the forest floor." More fuel means hotter burning fires, which are harder to contain.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2, *Smokey Is 70*)

Now, prescribed burns help remove excess fuel. Other projects clear brush or thin trees in dense areas that haven't burned in a while.

### NEW MANAGEMENT

Meanwhile, Smokey's prevention message still matters, and accidental human-caused fires require a response. In 2012, fire-related activities ate up more than 40 percent of the Forest Service budget, leaving funds for other important conservation programs diminished.

But there is hope on that front. A group of 160 conservation, recreation, forestry and other groups, including American Forests, continue to fight for the successful passage of the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act. This act ensures funding for both wildfire first responders and for land managers, creating an emergency funding process for fire response that mirrors the funding process FEMA depends on to respond to other natural disasters. This process works to reduce the amount of emergency firefighting funds being borrowed from other important Forest Service programs. As fires continue to burn more frequently and with greater intensity, it is increasingly

important to have a funding strategy to meet the challenges.

Of course, fighting wildfire cannot be done in Washington alone. Things have changed for the boots on the ground as well.

Agencies use updated helicopters and aircraft. The Forest Service has also invented a new descent device that lets firefighters slide down safely from helicopters, even in the ever-changing conditions of a wildfire.

As workers build fire lines, other crews slow the fire's spread with foams, gels and retardants. Recent developments include more effective and environmentally safer products.

Foam chemicals decrease water's surface tension. That process "allows water to penetrate into real dense fuel, like a smoldering log or thick dust layers," says Shirley Zylstra at the Forest Service's Missoula Technology & Development Center.

Gels make water thicker. "They're the same types of chemicals that they use in baby diapers," says Zylstra, so they hold lots of water to protect nesting trees, cabins, or other sensitive areas. With consistencies like mayonnaise or

Vaseline, gels get applied from the air or ground very shortly before a fire arrives. In a pinch, they can go on active flames too.

### A NEW AGE

In 2012, Smokey Bear went to the International Space Station in the form of a plush toy, as a symbol for wildfire prevention, to help draw awareness to the research related to plant growth and combustion and materials sciences being conducted on the space station.

"Satellites are the first to detect some of these fires as they're started," says Doug Morton at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland. He describes the satellite as "the tallest fire tower around."

Satellites also help with planning. "Areas that have not burned during the satellite era might be at greater risk," adds Morton. That's because the longer it's been since a fire, the more fuel is likely to be built up. Agencies can use that information to position firefighting resources. The information also helps with fuel reduction programs, such as (tree thinning or prescribed burns, by indicating areas in need of such measures.

(Continued on page 5)

## July's Birthdays



Gus Dear -1  
 John Moore -1  
 George Chapman -2  
 Tammy Spitchley -2  
 Marsha Whitehead -2  
 Charles Browning -3  
 Roy James -3  
 Russell Bozeman -7  
 John Cason -7  
 John Polk -7  
 Patrick Williams -8  
 William Harvey -9  
 Donald Pryor -9  
 Mark Mann -10  
 Ronnie Clayton -11  
 Anthony McMullan -11  
 John Dixon -12  
 Christopher Stevenson -13  
 James Buchanan -14  
 Bradford Joiner -14  
 Anita Wilson -14  
 Walter Graves -17  
 Michael Stephens -17  
 Douglas Vandevander -18  
 Brandie Allred -19  
 James Shumpert -21  
 Timothy Ashley -23  
 Donald Dauphin -25  
 William Kitchings -26  
 Michael Lee -26



## Personnel Personals

Say Hello To Our

# NEW HIRES

- Michael Hickman, Service Forester, Clarke County, SCD
- Joey Hitchcock, Emergency Tele-Communicator, SED Office
- Michael White, Forest Ranger, George County, SED
- Michael Williams, Forester Trainee, Panola County, NWD

# HOME OF THE FREE BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE

## Retirement NEXT EXIT ➔

- Sebastian Pope, Service Forester, Choctaw County, ECD
- Danny Loftin, Equipment Repair Supervisor, Rural Fire Assistance, Rankin County
- Sandra Ford, Underserved Outreach Forester, Hinds County, State Office

July 2014



### Leaves:

**Type:** simple, alternate, deciduous

**Size:** 3.0" - 5.0" long; 2.0" - 4.0" wide

**Margin:** entire

**Apex:** slightly 3-lobed

**Base:** wedge-shaped

**Shape:** broadly obovate

**Color:** yellow-green above; paler green below

**Surface:** glabrous above; axillary tufts of pubescence below

### Twigs:

**Size:** slender

**Color:** grayish brown

**Surface:** gray pubescence until late in season; becoming darker and glabrous; lenticels, prominent yellowish brown; leaf scars, half-round

### Buds:

**Size:** (no data)

**Shape:** ovoid to acute

**Color:** chestnut brown; scales light brown

**Surface:** slightly ciliate scale margins

### Fruit and Flowers:

**Nut:** acorn, annual; cup, saucer-shaped, covers <25% of nut

**Size:** 0.5" long pubescent; nut 0.63" long

**Shape:** acorn subglobose

**Color:** mature nut, brown

## Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

to black with faint lighter stripes

**Flower:** monoecious; unisexual; staminate, hairy catkins, 2.0" - 2.5" long; pistillate, solitary or few-flowered on stout spikes

**Bark:** black with deep furrows; long, narrow ridges covered with thick, closely appressed scales; orange inner bark

### Physical Attributes:

**Form:** single stem

**Size:** 40.0' - 95.0', mature

**Growth Rate:** moderate; (site/location specific)

**Life Span:** moderate (>50 yrs)

### Tolerances:

Shade: tolerant

Drought: high

Fire: low

Anaerobic: none

### Habitat and Ecology:

**Site:** sporadically on well-drained, sandy soils in hardwood stands

**Soil Texture:** coarse - fine (if well-drained)

**Soil pH:** acid - alkaline (no specific data)

**Range:** southwest Georgia and northwest Florida; west to Louisiana and southwest Arkansas; in Mississippi, has only been found in Covington County where the largest known specimen is located.

### Wildlife Value and Uses:

good choice for wildlife food because it produces acorns even in the driest years; may not be available.

### Timber Value and Uses:

considered rare in Arkansas, endangered in Florida, and vulnerable in Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana.

**Landscaping Info:** not available for landscaping purposes.

**Other Facts:** thought to be an ancient species of formerly wider distribution in the Coastal Plain; first discovered in Arkansas, hence the common name.

Who Am I?



(Continued from page 3,  
*Smokey Is 70*)

Space is not the only frontier Smokey has explored. He now has a huge digital presence too. Smokey Bear tweets. He is on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. He's even on LinkedIn. "We have him out there," says Walker.

Smokey's not alone in going digital. More and more, computer modeling plays a role in fire management. Weather forecasts from local radio or TV stations might cover a whole county or more. When wildfire breaks out, forecasts on that large scale aren't good enough. "For fighting fire, what we really need is a very small

scale [forecast]," says Shyh-Chin Chen at the Forest Service's Southwest Pacific Research Station. Crews need to know precisely where fire will go and how fast it will spread. For example, says Chen, "wind is one of the most important factors that affects the fire spread." But in hilly areas like southern California, terrain can cause very local shifts in wind and other factors.

The winds of wildfire management have certainly shifted over the last 70 years, and 2014 will be a befitting year to look back and learn from our mistakes and successes, as Smokey Bear himself turns 70. Smokey will make lots of appearances this sum-

mer as he celebrates his anniversary. Watch for him on TV, at parks, around county fairs and elsewhere. "Smokey is communicating that personal responsibility message — that everyone can do something to prevent wildfires," says Fisher. Meanwhile, government agencies and groups like American Forests are doing their part. Greater success in restoring forests and removing excess fuel can lower the risks of devastating fires and habitat loss. That's something Smokey and all of us can celebrate.

Kathiann M. Kowalski

## SAYING



## TO OUR FRIENDS

- ✎ Rudolph Morgan, Forest Ranger, Jasper County, SCD
- ✎ Derrick Washington, Forest Ranger, Wilkinson County, SWD
- ✎ Justin Jacobs, Forest Ranger, Smith County, SCD
- ✎ Mallore Swartz, Forestry Technician, Lowndes County, ECD
- ✎ Justin Dewberry, Service Forester, NED
- ✎ Travis Widener, Forest Ranger, Capital District



In an acknowledgement of the digital age, Smokey is now on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), and [Twitter](#). And of course he has a [webpage](#), and even his own Zip Code, 20252.

**ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES.**





## Mississippi Firewise

THE FIREWISE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM provides homeowners with simple and easy steps to help reduce a home's wildfire risk by preparing ahead of a wildfire. These steps are rooted in principles based on solid fire science research into how homes ignite. The research comes from the world's leading fire experts whose experiments, models and data collection are based on some of the country's worst wildland fire disasters.

Below are Firewise principles and tips that serve as a guide for residents:

When it comes to wildfire risk, it is not a geographical location, but a set of conditions that determine the home's ignition potential in any community.

Wildfire behavior is influenced by three main factors: topography (lie of the land), weather (wind speed, relative humidity and ambient temperature) and fuel (vegetation and man-made structures). In the event of extreme wildfire behavior, extreme weather conditions are normally present, like extended drought, high winds, low humidity and high temperatures, coupled with excess fuel build up including the accumulation of live and dead vegetation material. Additionally, the inherent lie of the land influences the intensity and spread a fire takes. Fires tend to move upslope, and the steeper the slope the faster it moves.

Of these three factors, **fuel** is the one we can influence.

Debris like dead leaves and pine needles left on decks, in gutters and strewn across lawns can ignite from flying embers. Fire moving along the ground's surface can "ladder" into shrubs and low hanging tree limbs to create longer flames and more heat. If your home has flammable features or vulnerable openings, it can also serve as fuel for the fire, and become part of a disastrous chain of ignitions to other surrounding homes and structures.

A home's ignition risk is determined by its immediate surroundings or its "home ignition zone" and the home's construction materials.

According to fire science research and case studies, it's not where a home is located that necessarily determines ignition risk, but the landscape around it, often referred to as the "home ignition zone." The home ignition zone is defined as the home and its immediate surroundings up to 200 feet (60 m).

The Firewise Communities Program provides tips for reducing wildfire risk based on the home ignition zone concept:

**Home Zone:** Harden your home against wildfire. This includes fences, decks, porches and other attachments. From the point of view of a fire, if it's attached to the house it is a part of the house. Non-flammable or low flammability construction materials—especially for roofs, sid-

ing and windows—are recommended for new homes or retrofits. Keep any flammables, including plantings and mulch out of the area within 5 feet of your home's perimeter.

**Zone 1:** This well-irrigated area encircles the structure for at least 30 feet on all sides including decks and fences, and provides space for fire suppression equipment in the event of an emergency. Lawns should be well maintained and mowed. Plantings should be limited to carefully-spaced low flammability species. In particularly fire prone areas, non-flammable mulch should be considered.

**Zone 2:** This area encircles 30 – 100 feet from the home. Low flammability plant materials should be used here. Plants should be low-growing and the irrigation system should extend into this section. Shrubs and trees should be limbed up and spaced to prevent crowns of trees from touching.

**Zone 3:** This area encompasses 100 – 200 feet from the home. Place low-growing plants and well-spaced trees in this area, remembering to keep the volume of vegetation (fuel) low.

**Zone 4:** This furthest zone from the structure is a natural area. Selectively prune and thin all plants and remove highly flammable vegetation.

**Homeowners can and must take primary responsibility for wildfire safety action around the home.**

There are not enough fire fighting resources to protect every house during severe wildfires, and with shrinking budgets it means we need to do more with less. Fire fighters are trained to safely and efficiently suppress wildland fires, but their effectiveness is reduced when they must sweep decks, move wood piles and patio furniture while trying to fight a fire. According to fire science research, individual efforts do make a difference even in the face of a catastrophic wildfire.

The following steps are outlined by the Firewise program to reduce home ignition risk, based on this principle:

- Prune low hanging limbs to reduce ladder fuels
- Clean roofs and gutters of pine needles and dead leaves
- Keep flammable plants and mulches at least 5 feet away from your home's perimeter
- Use low-growing, well pruned and fire-resistive plants around home
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire screening no larger than 1/8-inch mesh
- Sweep decks and porch-

- es clear of fallen leaves
- Move woodpiles away from the home during non-winter months
- Bring doormats and furniture cushions inside when an area is threatened by a wildfire
- Close garage doors when leaving your home in the event of an evacuation

**We all have a role to play in protecting ourselves and others.**

Your home ignition zone extends up to 200 feet—and it's quite common to have neighbors whose home ignition zone overlaps yours. Buildings closer than 100 feet apart can ignite one another if they are in flames. In addition, many communities have commonly owned property, including natural or wooded areas that can pose fire risks to all. This means that to be most effective, neighbors need to work together and with their local fire service to achieve greater wildfire safety.

Together, community residents can work with agencies and elected officials to accomplish the following:

- Ensure that homes and neighborhoods have legible/clearly marked street names and numbers
- Create "two ways out" of the neighborhood for

safe evacuation during a wildfire emergency

- Create phone trees to alert residents about an impending fire
- Review any existing community rules or regulations on vegetation management and construction materials to see if they are "Firewise-friendly"
- Use the "Ready, Set, Go!" program with the fire department to educate neighbors
- Use the Firewise Communities/USA® Recognition Program to create and implement an ongoing action plan that will also earn the neighborhood national recognition for their efforts



**LEARN MORE about how to keep families safe and reduce homeowners' risk for wildfire damage at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).**

## Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

June 2014 was the September Elm (*Ulmus serotina* Sarg). Check out page 39 in the Mississippi Trees book.



Leaf



Fruit



Flower



Bark



Twig

# Odds & Ends Forestry News

## Louisville Looks to More Trees to Curb Growing Heat Islands

Louisville, KY - Downtown Louisville residents live in one of the fastest growing urban heat islands in the U.S., according to preliminary results of an ongoing study. The cause: lack of tree cover. Lead researcher on the study, Georgia Tech's Brian Stone, says more trees are needed to help mitigate the impacts of the urban heat island effect. [More](#)

## Tree farming offers hope for beetle-threatened region of Wyoming.

[Buffalo Bulletin] Gray areas spot the dark evergreen forests of Bighorn National Forest. The patchwork of colors reveals the attack from spruce beetles that munched their way through 76,000 acres in Wyoming, including small, concentrated areas in the Bighorn Mountains. Now the attacks have stabilized, according to Kelly Norris, the forester for Wyoming State Forestry's District 5. [More](#).

## More Than Just Tax Breaks, These Policies Make an Impact On-the-Ground.

There's been a lot of talk about tax reform in Washington, D.C. in the past year. And it's true – everything is on the table, even forests. In recent months, we've seen proposals from both sides of the aisle that target tax provisions that for decades have helped to keep our forests intact, healthy, and in the hands of those who care for them. [More](#).

## California Budget Invests Big in Urban Forestry

Sacramento, CA - A state budget conference committee in California has approved a Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget agreement reached by the State Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown that includes \$17 million for urban forestry. Both Houses of the State Legislature passed the budget agreement late Sunday, June 15th, and the final budget now goes to Governor Brown for his signature .

## Eight mysterious forests every nature lover should see.

[Travel Pulse]. [More](#).

## Company blazes a green building trail, encouraging construction with whole trees affected by emerald ash borer.

[Cap Times] [More](#).

## Tired of picking up fallen cones, Georgia scientist sets out to develop a cone-less pine tree.

[WALB News] A Turfgrass scientist from Tifton is working to breed a tree with pine cones or pollen. For the past nine years, Wayne Hanna has been working to produce a cone-less pine tree. [More](#).

## What's In Your Firewood?

Arlington, VA - Summer is a good time to educate the community about the importance of using local firewood to slow the spread of tree-killing insects and diseases. In Denver, CO, where the emerald ash borer has put the urban forest under siege, officials have issued a "burn it where you buy it" policy for firewood. More states are getting on board. Here are new tools and research on how you can help. [More](#)

## Farewell to Eastern hemlock forests?

New book predicts demise within two decades. [Harvard Magazine] The dark but delicate beauty of hemlocks has inspired writers for centuries but within the next 10 years, hemlocks in forests across the United States are projected to die off completely. [More](#).

## Prescribed burns, forest management helping endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

[Richmond Times-Dispatch] WAVERLY – Flopping around on a towel on the floor of a pine forest, a tiny chick represented hope — if hope can be blind, pink and naked. [More](#).

## Ancient bald cypress tree rings hold clues to ancient droughts.

[Washington Post] If you want to know how the weather has been along the East Coast for the last 1,000 years or so, ask David W. Stahle of the University of Arkansas. [More](#).

# Another Pellet Plant in MS

By Anna Simet

A unit of Drax Group that is currently constructing a 450,000-ton wood pellet production facility in Amite County near Gloster, Miss., is planning to build an additional facility roughly 40 miles away in Magnolia, Miss., according to documents filed with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

The project is being built under the title Pike BioEnergy LLC, proposed for a 103-acre site.

MDEQ opened a 30-day public comment period on the project on May 16. According to the permit applica-

tion, Pike BioEnergy proposes to install and operate a wet electrostatic precipitator, a regenerative thermal oxidizer, and fabric filters for the control of air emissions at the site, and is taking limits to avoid being classified as a major stationary source for the Prevention of Significant Deterioration.

A Large Construction General Permit was also filed, by Drax Biomass International Inc.'s Vice President of Commercial Development Phillipe De Montigny.

Plans for the newest facility align with statements made by Drax Chief Executive Dorothy Thompson dur-

ing a 2013 financial earnings call in February, which indicated Drax was pursuing options to develop up to 2 million tons of additional pellet capacity, primarily in the U.S.

In addition to the proposed Pike County and Gloster facilities, Drax is building a \$30 million storage facility at the Port of Greater Baton Rouge, and a third 450,000-ton pellet production plant in Bastrop, Miss., which was recently approved for a \$500,000 economic development loan by the board of the Louisiana Economic Development Corp.



*2014 Geographic Area Heavy Equipment Operator Academy  
Pearl, Mississippi*

# MFA News

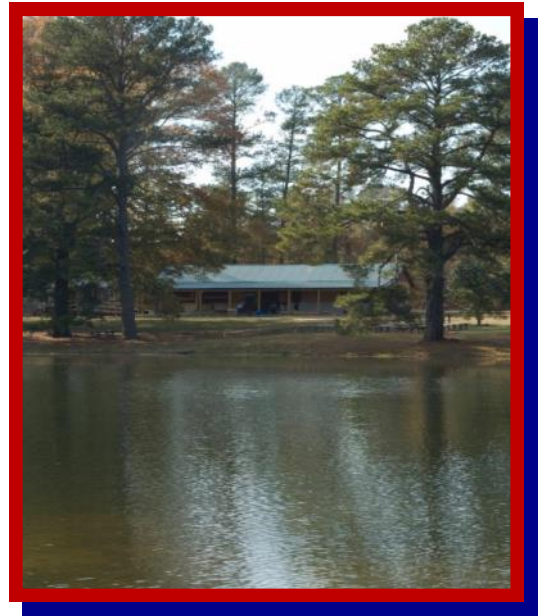


Visit [midsouthforestry.org](http://midsouthforestry.org) for information on how to register for the 2014 Mid-South Forestry Equipment Show. This is the longest-running live logging/biomass event in the country and only such venue located in the heart of the South's forest industry! The show also includes continuing education opportunities for foresters and loggers, landowner education sessions, and fun activities for children.

The deadlines for MFA's award programs are rapidly approaching. Logger of the Year nomination deadline is July 15th. Please visit the [MFA Award Programs](#) page to access these nomination forms and to view other deadlines.

You are invited to be a part of a dinner sponsored by the Mississippi Forestry Foundation. The casual "Summer Supper at Dorman" will feature a time for visiting and dining in a laid-back atmosphere. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. for a cost of \$50 per person.

This event will be one of the main fundraising activities for the Mississippi Forestry Foundation in 2014. At this time the Foundation is fundraising to support MFA's youth education activities and to fully fund endowed scholarships to the Mississippi State University College of Forest Resources. Contact [Eleana Pope](#) for additional information.



## US Highway 78 Legislation

On May 19th, House Resolution 4268, requested by MFA, passed the U.S. House. This bill allows timber and agricultural vehicles to continue to carry up to 84,000 pounds on Highway 78. Congressman Nunnelee presented this bill on the House floor where it passed. Congressmen Bennie Thompson (MS-02), Gregg Harper (MS-03), and Steven Palazzo (MS-04) are cosponsors of the legislation.

Senators Thad Cochran (R-Miss) and Roger Wicker (R-Miss) are cosponsors of similar legislation in the Senate where the bill has not yet come up for vote. MFA will continue to diligently promote the passage of this bill.



*Dear Sirs,*

*On behalf of my friend Kathy Keith and I, we wanted to express our appreciation for the help we received in investigating and locating the Champion Magnolia tree located 2 miles east of the State School. Mr. Stuart Knight went way beyond the call of duty to see that we get to the tree in a safe and comfortable manner. His insight and knowledge made our trek to find the tree an incredible adventure. Once again please accept our appreciation for a fun time enjoying another Mississippi asset.*

*Sincerely,*

*Patsy M Cheek (Kenai, Alaska)*

*Katherine S Keith (Moselle, Ms)*

## Buchanan Named DF in ECD

Jackson, MS – Effective July 1, 2014, Buck Buchanan will assume the position of East Central District Forester for the Mississippi Forestry Commission (MFC).

Buchanan, a graduate of Mississippi State University with a degree in forestry, has been an employee of the MFC for the past 32 years. He was most recently the Spatial Technology Forester for approximately six years. That position included responsibility over all agency Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), as well as support for the agency's forest inventory systems and forest management systems.

"Buck's contribution to our forest management strategies is what has kept Mississippi on the forefront of timber inventory technology," said Charlie Morgan, State Forester. "And with his knowledge and experience of agency programs and functions, I am confident he will make a strong leader for the East Central District."

Prior to his position as Spatial Technology Forester, Buchanan served as an Area Forester in the Northwest District, an Assistant District Forester in East Central District, a County (Service) Forester, a Forestry Technician and a Forestry Crew Member. Buchanan is a registered forester with the State of Mississippi.



# Celebrate a SAFE & HAPPY JULY 4TH!



# Word Search

Q	G	P	Q	G	P	W	N	O	E	E	R	F	K	M
W	N	O	I	T	A	R	A	L	C	E	D	T	Z	J
I	S	L	P	A	T	R	I	O	T	I	C	Y	U	P
N	N	M	F	K	H	T	D	E	M	A	H	L	S	I
D	O	J	R	Z	O	Y	A	H	U	S	Y	I	X	C
E	I	H	E	A	L	U	S	I	I	L	U	P	C	N
P	T	I	E	S	I	I	X	Y	T	E	F	A	S	R
E	A	U	D	G	D	O	C	Y	P	I	R	R	C	V
N	R	Y	O	C	A	P	I	H	L	U	V	A	I	Q
D	B	R	M	I	Y	L	U	V	T	J	Q	D	N	A
E	E	V	L	F	V	M	F	Q	K	R	A	E	C	Y
N	L	A	C	I	R	E	M	A	B	Q	U	S	I	A
C	E	A	M	E	A	B	Q	S	H	I	Q	O	P	D
E	C	S	B	Q	Y	L	I	M	A	F	W	N	F	A
H	I	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	E	C	L	V

See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle.  
The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

Created by Sue Lindlauf  
Grand Forks Herald 2012

- |            |              |                 |                  |
|------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. FOURTH  | 5. DAY       | 9. CELEBRATION  | 13. INDEPENDENCE |
| 2. JULY    | 6. PICNICS   | 10. PARADES     | 14. AMERICA      |
| 3. HOLIDAY | 7. FIREWORKS | 11. FAMILY      | 15. PATRIOTIC    |
| 4. FLAG    | 8. SAFETY    | 12. DECLARATION | 16. FREEDOM      |

★ The 4th of July Parade in Bristol, Rhode Island, is the oldest continuous Independence Day celebration in the U.S. The town has thrown the celebration every year since 1785. ★

The U.S Census reports that over the average 4th of July holiday,

Americans consume  
150 million hot dogs.

This day is also the  
biggest beer-selling  
holiday of the year.

(The other top 5 in order,  
are Labor Day, Memorial Day,  
Father's Day and Christmas.)

Americans also spend  
approximately \$11 million  
on popsicles and charcoal  
both for the  
4th of July.



## UNCLE SAM WAS A REAL PERSON

The man was Samuel Wilson, born September 13th, 1766 and died on July 31st, 1854. Wilson and his brother Ebenezer moved to Troy New York where they ended up setting up the business E. & S. Wilson which, among other things, dealt in meat packing. By the war of 1812, his business was fairly prosperous. During the war, E. & S. Wilson obtained a contract with the U.S. government to provide the army with beef and pork. They shipped this beef in barrels and because the meat was now the property of the U.S. government, he marked them with "U.S." on the barrels. The teamsters and eventually soldiers took to saying that the "U.S." on the barrels stood for "Uncle Sam", referring to the co-owner of the supplying company, Samuel Wilson. Eventually, they took to referring to all U.S. branded property as "Uncle Sam's", even though E. & S. Wilson only had supplied the beef and pork. This further evolved into called the federal government itself "Uncle Sam" Widespread use of this anthropomorphic figure of the U.S. government later became popular among the masses through various political cartoons, often squaring off against the English equivalent "John Bull".



# 4th of July



# Happy 4th of July

# Safety First . . .

## Safety Is In Your Hands - Skin Cancer

*From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).*

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. In the United States in 2009, 61,646 people were diagnosed with melanomas of the skin, and 9,199 people died from it.

### Prevention

Protection from ultraviolet (UV) radiation is important all year round, not just during the summer or at the beach. UV rays from the sun can reach you on cloudy and hazy days, as well as bright and sunny days. UV rays also reflect off of surfaces like water, cement, sand, and snow. Indoor tanning (using a tanning bed, booth, or sun-lamp to get tan) exposes users to UV radiation.

The hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. daylight savings time (9 a.m. to 3 p.m. standard time) are the most hazardous for UV exposure outdoors in the continental United States. UV rays from sunlight are the greatest during the late spring and early summer in North America.

CDC recommends easy options for protection from UV radiation—

- Seek shade, especially during mid-day hours.
- Wear clothing to protect exposed skin.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim to shade the face, head, ears, and neck.
- Wear sunglasses that wrap around and block as close to 100% of both UVA and UVB rays as possible.
- Use sunscreen with sun protective factor (SPF) 15 or higher, and both

UVA and UVB protection.

- Avoid indoor tanning.

### Shade

You can reduce your risk of skin damage and skin cancer by seeking shade under an umbrella, tree, or other shelter before you need relief from the sun. Your best bet to protect your skin is to use sunscreen or wear protective clothing when you're outside -- even when you're in the shade.

### Clothing

Loose-fitting long-sleeved shirts and long pants made from tightly woven fabric offer the best protection from the sun's UV rays. A wet T-shirt offers much less UV protection than a dry one. Darker colors may offer more protection than lighter colors.

If wearing this type of clothing isn't practical, at least try to wear a T-shirt or a beach cover-up. Keep in mind that a typical T-shirt has an SPF rating lower than 15, so use other types of protection as well.

### Hats

For the most protection, wear a hat with a brim all the way around that shades your face, ears, and the back of your neck. A tightly woven fabric, such as canvas, works best to protect your skin from UV rays. Avoid straw hats with holes that let sunlight through. A darker hat may offer more UV protection.

If you wear a baseball cap, you should also protect your ears and the back of your neck by wearing clothing that covers those areas, using sunscreen with at least SPF 15, or by staying in the

shade.

### Sunglasses

Sunglasses protect your eyes from UV rays and reduce the risk of cataracts. They also protect the tender skin around your eyes from sun exposure. Sunglasses that block both UVA and UVB rays offer the best protection. Most sunglasses sold in the United States, regardless of cost, meet this standard. Wrap-around sunglasses work best because they block UV rays from sneaking in from the side.

### Sunscreen

The sun's UV rays can damage your skin in as little as 15 minutes. Put on sunscreen before you go outside, even on slightly cloudy or cool days. Don't forget to put a thick layer on all parts of exposed skin. Get help for hard-to-reach places like your back.

The United States Food and Drug Administration has announced significant changes to sunscreen product labels that will help consumers decide how to buy and use sunscreen and allow them to protect themselves and their families from sun-induced damage more effectively.

### Avoid Indoor Tanning

Using a tanning bed, booth, or sun-lamp to get tan is called "indoor tanning." Indoor tanning has been linked with skin cancers including melanoma (the deadliest type of skin cancer), squamous cell carcinoma, and cancers of the eye (ocular melanoma).

Protect yourself & your skin, don't be one of the million people who will have skin cancer this year.

## First Time, Every Time